




Term	Definition	Image
Aided communication	Expressing yourself using communication assistive products. This is often alongside speech, body language or other unaided communication approaches.	
Autism / Autistic	A permanent variation in a person's behaviour and understanding of the world that often affects social interaction, communication and sometimes speech.	
Body language	How we use our body to communicate, even when we are not aware of this. Examples include facial expressions and hand gestures.	
Cerebral palsy	A group of conditions that affect movement, muscle tone, balance and posture. Cerebral palsy is a result of damage to the brain before, during or soon after birth.	
Communication partner	Anyone who talks or communicates with another person. In TAP this refers to the person in the conversation who is not using communication aids.	
Eye pointing	When a person directs their eyes to be understood by others. This may be by looking at a desired item, or a photograph or symbol representing that item.	
Gesture	A deliberate movement used to communicate a message. Examples include head nodding, eye rolling or finger pointing.	

Language	A system that is made up of gestures, symbols and words used to share information.	
Sign language	A system of using hand gestures and facial expressions to communicate. Sign language is often used by the Deaf and hard of hearing community.	
Stroke	Blockage of blood flow in the brain. This can result in one side of the body becoming weak or paralysed, as well as problems in speaking, feeling, thinking and seeing.	
Stutter	When someone has difficulty speaking smoothly, repeating sounds, or pausing often while talking.	
Unaided communication	Expressing yourself using speech, body language, gestures and sign language.	